

From: Jay A. St. Pierre
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 2:17pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to express my opinion that the proposed settlement does nothing to either punish Microsoft for their transgressions, nor prevent them from doing so again.

The fundamental problem with Microsoft is that they sell the dominant desktop operating system AND the applications that run on top of it. The only way to create a even playing field for competitors is to expose the interface between the applications and the operating system. This would truly allow for competition among applications AND among operating systems, as competitors could create either applications or operating systems that met the published standard.

In any event, just telling Microsoft that they were bad and they must not do it again is in no way going to either punish Microsoft, nor prevent a recurrence of their behavior.

-Jay St. Pierre